

INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
PUBLIC INPUT MEETING
March 24, 2010, 4:00 p.m.
Indiana Government Center Auditorium
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Attendees:

Jan Shupert-Arick	Arts United of Fort Wayne
Catherine Dixon	Indianapolis Civic Theater
Mary Jane Sorbera	International Violin Competition of Indianapolis
David Lindquist	Indianapolis Star
Evan Shields	Evansville Courier and Press
Megan McKinney	Fine Arts Society of Indianapolis
Emily Berger	Indianapolis Marion County Public Library Foundation
KaAnne Morris	Franklin Symphonic Council
Cassandra Pixey	Clowes Memorial Hall
Lisa C. Whitaker	Clowes Memorial Hall
Stephanie Haines	Young Audiences of Indiana
Joe Brubaker	Young Audiences of Indiana
Alyson Ahms	Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra
Joe Peacock	Indianapolis Opera
Donna Catalano	South Shore Arts
Joyce L. Ribble	Arts advocate
Sally A. Dixon	Eiteljorg Museum
William R. Seybold	South Bend Museum of Art
Marty Heirty	Southold Dance Theater
Tami Ramaker	South Bend Civic Theater
Katie Becker	Cardinal Stage Company, Bloomington
Robby Tompkins	Cornerstone Center for the Arts, Muncie
Terry Whitt Bailey	Cornerstone Center for the Arts, Muncie
Carolyn Ealy	Music for All
Hugh Vandivier	Primary Colours

Lewis Ricci, IAC Executive Director, gave a presentation explaining the IAC budget history, recent budget developments, and the Four-Point Plan for Moving Forward. The meeting was then opened for public comments and questions. Mr. Ricci spoke on behalf of the IAC.

Questions, Answers, and Comments:

Comment - Tami Raymaker, South Bend Civic Theater. I support the drop of CAP funds; in other states it is not as transparent and it breeds a level of mistrust. My concern is that the estimated monies for AOS-II are not enough. I hope you look at that again. Centralized funding has never been tremendously good at achieving equity state-wide. I'm very concerned about being rolled into a state-wide process. There will be less incentive in the new system for AOS-IIs to collaborate on the regional level. This is a concern for the regions. It will weaken our Regional Partners. We don't want to see INCA as the mandated provider of technical services;

we would rather see a pool of money for technical services that would be available competitively to regions and others besides INCA.

Answer: INCA is just an example of an organization that we might partner with for technical services.

Comment: I hope we stay with our region; we have a highly functioning Regional Partner.

Comment – Terry Whitt Bailey, Cornerstone Center for the Arts. I appreciate the concern, but the intent is not to mandate INCA as the technical services provider. INCA and the INCA Foundation are happy to partner with IAC on planning and presenting workshops that are relevant to its constituents, but we need to be realistic about the limited resources and personnel. We support the ability of the Regional Partners to reach every part of the state.

Question: How will incentives work for AOS-II applicants reaching rural communities?

Answer: In all of our grant categories, we are going to “up” the criteria to reward those who serve rural areas. If you are serving those areas your score and ultimately your funding will go up.

Q: Technical services too?

A: There will be a pool of money available, and we will decide strategically which projects provide the best value for the common good. The Regional regrants will have opportunities for that money.

Q: When will we find out about funding for FY 2011?

A: It is our intent, and the intent of the state budget office, to have all of the budget pieces in place before we have our June 18 meeting of the full commission, so that we can approve the FY 2011 budget at that time.

Q: Are you confident that your current IAC staff can handle the workload from a greater number of grants.

A: Yes, the number of new grants we will be administering is roughly equal to the number of central project grants which have been eliminated.

Q: Part of your consideration is that you believe that conversations will increase between the Majors grantees and the AOS-II grantees. My concern is that there is not a process to do that. AOS-IIs are by definition regional, not state-wide, and the best form of communication is regionally.

A: We also hope that conversations will increase among AOS-IIs state-wide.

Q: I'm concerned that it will diminish.

A: Yes, I'm hearing that very loudly. I understand your concern.

Q: How often do the Majors meet over common needs?

A: Part of what we are trying to do is create some dialog on the state level.

Q: Are the budget figures set for AOS-I and AOS-0?

A: Not yet. We will be defining those categories more closely.

Q: Will the Project Support category be limited to Arts organizations?

A: It is still open to any organization. We are shifting funds somewhat among the AOS-I and AOS-0; if there are not enough applicants, for instance in AOS-0, we can redistribute those funds.

Q: Didn't you say that AOS-0 are not arts organizations?

A: No, AOS-0 are arts organizations. Project grant organizations do not have to be arts organizations.

Q: Will there still be APS grants?

A: Yes.

Commissioner Pam Hicks addressed the meeting before it closed. She stated that she is very sensitive to what is going on. She was part of the advisory committee which formed the Regional Arts Partnership program. She has been an arts advocate for 52 years. The Commission has worked very hard along with the staff to be sensitive to what is going for everyone. "We do the best we can. We want to be a 'we' and not a 'you' and a 'they'; we want to work together. I have seen some emotions that have been out of control; let's use our heads. Our hands are tied, we are doing the best we can."

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.